

# Northfield Open Space Committee

Minutes, Dec 17, 2013

Town Hall – Planning Board Room

*Items in italics require action prior to next meeting.*

Present: Mike Barry, Bob Hall, Joanne McGee, Jenny Tufts, Jerry Wagener, Chair.

Absent: Sue Handren, Sue Ross, Kate Rossiter (Leave of absence)

The meeting opened at 7:34.

1. **Agenda**: No change

2. **Minutes**: The minutes of Nov. 19, 2013, were approved. Bob/Jenny 4-0  
The minutes of Oct. 24, 2013, were approved after the word “two” was changed to “full”. Bob/Jenny 4-0

3. **Member comments**: Jerry and Joanne attended the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Conference on setting conservation priorities in the region using both resiliency and BioMap2 data.

## ***Old Business***

4. **Mill Brook update**: Jenny, Joanne, Jerry and Sue attended the Ed Snow/Annie Chappell meeting on Dec. 3. Ed wants to conserve the wetlands and seems willing to work with town volunteers on maintenance. He has already done some trail maintenance. When Jerry hiked and GPSed the trails around Mill Brook Conservation Area, he discovered that the trails line up quite well with the old hand-drawn map. CPA funds can only be used for trail work on CPA purchased land, but Recreational Trails grant funds are available.

5. **2013 Stewardship Award**: Jenny has two nominees and has contacted several potential agricultural nominators. The committee postponed the decision until the January meeting.

6. **CPA funding applications**: After some discussion, the committee decided to postpone any requests.

7. **2015 open Space budget**: There is \$600 remaining in the 2014 budget which will be used for kiosk materials. The committee voted to request a total of \$1400 for the 2015 budget. Jenny/Mike 5-0. The breakdown is as follows: \$200 for printing the Stream Team report update; \$600 for trail brochures; \$600 for trailhead kiosks.

## ***New Business***

8. **Trail web pages and trailhead kiosk design options**: Jerry demonstrated and distributed copies of his index map to trails and recreation areas in Northfield. His demonstration was hampered by the lack of WIFI in the Town Hall. The web map will be interactive; trail clickers will be directed to a map and more information about the trail. Jerry also distributed samples of kiosk designs. The

committee decided that a two-sided and two-legged design would best suit the town's needs. The two-sided design means that the back could be used.

9. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January, 21, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McGee, Secretary